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## Ex-Intelligence Director Disputes Censorship of His Book on C.I.A.

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WASHINGTON, May 17 — Adm. Stansfield Turner, who as Director of Central Intelligence prosecuted Frank W. Snepp 3d, a former officer of the Central Intelligence Agency, for refusing to clear his book about the fall of Saigon, is disputing C.I.A. censors over his own book on intelligence.

Admiral Turner acknowledged in an interview that the agency's Publications Review Board had objected to portions of three chapters in his uncompleted book. As much as 10 percent of one section was deleted, on the ground that it included classified information that would be injurious to the protection of agency sources and methods.

The retired Navy admiral, who served as Director of Central Intelligence in the Carter Administration, has vigorously disputed the agency's censorship in negotiations that began early this year.

Admiral Turner has retained an attorney, Anthony Lapham, who was the C.I.A.'s general counsel at the time of the Snepp proceedings, and said he was prepared to litigate if a satisfactory compromise could not be reached.

The former Director has no publisher yet for his book because it cannot be shown to outsiders until it is cleared by the agency. He said the book focused on the issues "of running secret intelligence operations in a democratic society."

Charles E. Wilson, chairman of the agency's Publications Review Board, confirmed today in a telephone interview that the board had "noted some things that are deemed classified" in Admiral Turner's book.

Mr. Wilson praised the former Director's previous cooperation with the board and expressed confidence that the current dispute would be resolved short of litigation. "If we did end up in court it would surprise me," he said. "This is a highly negotiated process."

Before posing a legal challenge to the agency's right to censor his book, Admiral Turner said, he had "a number of options."

"I can simply print anything and let them sue me," he went on. "The onus is on them to stop me from publishing." He added that could also "tell them that

I don't agree with their deletions and then they have to go to the Justice Department" to decide how to proceed.

Mr. Snepp, who was forced by a Supreme Court ruling in February 1980 to give the Government \$140,000 in earnings from his book, "Decent Interval," published by Random House in 1977, expressed little sympathy for Admiral Turner. "I think Turner deserves everything the censors visit on him because he failed to recognize just how dangerous censorship was in the first place," the former agent said in a telephone interview.

"I hate to think of anybody being censored," Mr. Snepp added, "but I think there is poetic justice in the fact that the architect of the C.I.A.'s censorship should now be feeling the heat."

In the interview, the former Director defended the intelligence agency's review program. "I've endorsed the process that I'm going through," he said. "I'm not fighting that."

### Number of Modifications Made

His complaint, he added, was over what he termed the "mechanics" of the censorship process. "It's a bad system to take an internal set of rules and apply them to external people," he said, maintaining that rules designed to prevent the spread of information inside the agency should not apply to him because everything that he wrote would be cleared anyway.

At issue, Admiral Turner said, "are specific anecdotes of operations that I had experiences with" while serving as Director of Central Intelligence. "They feel that by describing the operations I

would violate security," he said.

The former Director said he made a number of modifications to his book to meet the agency's objection. But he added that in many other cases he was convinced the agency had no basis for asking for deletions.

The overall result of the agency's censorship, Admiral Turner said, was damaging to his work in progress, which is nearly completed. In one chapter, the C.I.A.'s proposed cuts "in effect mean there's not much message left." The general tenor of the cuts, he added, "changes the chapters and makes them less appealing from a sales point of view."

Admiral Turner, in the interview, was reluctant to question the motives of the C.I.A.'s censors, but one of his former senior aides at the agency, who has been involved in the preparation of the book, depicted the deletions as nit-picking and quibbling.

"Stan Turner understands as well as anyone what is classified and what is not," the aide said. "He feels there are fundamental issues in carrying out intelligence in a free society, but there are absolutely unclassified issues — political science issues, if you will."

The aide added that Admiral Turner had upset many agency employees by authorizing the dismissal of hundreds of senior operatives.

Senior intelligence officials acknowledged that there was a growing enmity between Admiral Turner and high-level officials in the Reagan Administration, including William J. Casey, the current Director.

Admiral Turner has emerged in the past year as a leading critic of the Administration's intelligence policies and strategic programs, and has made his criticisms in print.